SRI S. PAKKIRISAWMI PILLAI :—" Sir, I find that there are many minor engineering industries in the city which are now being closed. May I know what exactly the reasons are that led to this kind of closure? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" This has nothing to do with the main question, which relates to the enquiries by Tripartite Enquiry Committees."

Aid to Milkmen Co-operative Societies

* 1040 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the nature of aid, and the amount of grant and loan given to the Milkmen Co-operative Societies in the State of Madras in the year 1953–54; and

(*b*) the number of milkmen benefited under the scheme?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The answers[a] are placed on the table of the House ".

SRI A. RATNAM :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister the terms under which loans are disbursed to milkmen for the purchase of cows and buffaloes and how the loans are recovered if the animals die on account of unavoidable circumstances, such as sickness, etc.? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" There may have been no such loss due to non-recovery of loans. Loans are granted for the purchase of milch animals."

SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM :—" There is considerable difficulty in the working of the milk supply unions and societies and so far as this State is concerned, they only take care of the purchasers' interests. There are two seasons, one the deficit season and the other the surplus season. In the surplus season, they are unable to distribute all the milk they get and in the deficit season they are unable to meet the demands of the consumers. Therefore, all the unions and societies are in need of preserving milk so as to enable them to meet the demands of the consumers at all times. Will the Government come forward to supply them with storage plants which are very necessary for their trade? " 8–40 a.m.

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" As a matter of fact, the number of unions and societies have increased very much because of the encouragement given to them."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" The recent conference of medical experts at New Delhi has expressed the view that the problem of public health in our country is mainly malnutrition and India being one of the countries with the lowest consumption of milk and milk being the one article which contains a good proportion of all the important vitamins, will the Government at least

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 423 infra.

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consider the abolition of single-point sales tax which is now collected on the sales of milk in order that milk consumption may improve? ''

MR. SPEAKER :—'' It should be addressed to the concerned Minister.''

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—'' Sir, in the written answer or statement furnished to the members the very first amenity or advantage that is sought to be conferred upon these unions is to give them preference in the matter of tenders for supply of milk to hospitals and jails. May I bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister an instance which is personally known to me as the Vice-President of the Tellicherry Milk Supply Union, our tender though fairly comparable with some other private tender was unfortunately turned down and the same calamity awaits us this year also? ''

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—'' The hon. Member may kindly write to me about it and I shall enquire into the matter.''

Improvements to Amoor Cheri

* 1041 *Q.*—SRI O. CHENGAM PILLAI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state whether any action has been taken on the representation of the local M.L.A. to the Government—

(1) for the construction of a drinking water well and for deepening and repairing the existing well; and

(2) for opening a school for the benefit of Harijans in Amoor Cheri, Ponneri taluk, Chingleput district?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—'' The representation is under the investigation of the Collector.''

SRI O. CHENGAM PILLAI :—'' ஆமூர் சேரியில் ஏற்கெனவே பள்ளிக்கூடம் இடவசதி இல்லாமல் மூடப்பட்டன. இப்போது இடவசதி கொடுக்க மக்கள் முன்வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். அப்படியிருந்தும் அரசாங்கம் ஏன் பள்ளிக்கூடம் திறப்பதற்கு உத்திரவு போடவில்லை.''

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—'' ஜூன் மாதத்தில் பள்ளிக்கூடம் ஆரம்பிப்பது பற்றி யோசிக்கப்படும்.''

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—'' When was the representation made by the local Assembly Member regarding the construction of the drinking water well and regarding the deepening of the existing well? ''

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—'' During the first week of November the representation was made and the question of deepening the well is receiving the attention of the Government. If the deepening of the well is done, I do not think there will be need for a separate well.''